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REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's review of the specification, claims, and drawings. In light of the above amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application. No new matter has been entered.

Status of the Claims:

Claims 130-133, 135-184, 251, and 252 are presently pending in the application. Claim 134 was previously canceled. Claims 1-129 and 185-250 have been previously canceled.

Claim Rejections:

The Examiner rejects Claims 130-138, 140-143, 146-149, 152-159, 163-179, 183, and 184 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,671,996 to Bos et al. or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Bos in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,676,668 to Collins et al.

The Examiner rejects Claims 139, 144, 145, 149-151, 159, 160-162, and 180-182 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bos in view of Collins.

The Examiner rejects Claim 159 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bos in view of Collins.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of the claims on several bases. Notwithstanding, Applicants have amended Claim 130 to more clearly define Applicants' invention which now calls for:

An improved lighting system for a vehicle, the vehicle having a battery/ignition voltage, said lighting system comprising:

an accessory module assembly adapted for attachment to an interior portion of a vehicle;

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said accessory module assembly configured to illuminate an area inside the vehicle when said accessory module assembly is attached to said interior portion of the vehicle;

said accessory module assembly comprising a single non-incandescent light source, said single light source comprising a single high-intensity power light emitting diode emitting light for illuminating the area with a luminous efficiency of at least about 1 lumen/watt when said single high-intensity power light emitting diode is operated and wherein said single high-intensity power light emitting diode is operated at a forward current of at least about 100 milliamps and a forward operating voltage less than about 5 volts; and

a voltage conversion element for converting the battery/ignition voltage of the vehicle to the forward operating voltage of the light emitting diode, said voltage conversion element stepping down the battery/ignition voltage of the vehicle to the forward operating voltage of the light emitting diode and correspondingly stepping up current; and

said voltage conversion element having a step-down ratio of at least about 2 to 1 for voltage and a step-up ratio of at least about 2 to 1 for current.

Applicants respectfully urge that Bos does not disclose or suggest the claimed combination. For example, Bos does not disclose or suggest a lighting system that includes an accessory module assembly comprising a single non-incandescent light source, with the single non-incandescent light source comprising a single high intensity power light emitting diode for illuminating an area with a luminous efficiency of at least about 1 lumen per watt when the single high intensity power light emitting diode is operated and wherein the single high intensity power light emitting diode is operated at a forward current of at least about 100 milliamps and a forward voltage of less than about 5 volts and, further, in combination with a voltage conversion element for converting the battery ignition voltage of a vehicle to the forward operating voltage of the light emitting diode, with the voltage conversion element comprising a voltage conversion element stepping down the battery/ignition voltage of the vehicle to the forward operating voltage of the light emitting diode and correspondingly stepping up current, wherein the voltage conversion element has a step-down ratio of at least about 2 to 1 and a step-up ratio of at least about 2 to 1 for current. Nor does Collins cure the

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deficiencies of Bos. Claims 135 and 136 have been amended to correct minor punctuation errors.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully urge that Claim 130 and its dependent claims, namely Claims 131-133, 135-184, 251, and 252 are patentably distinguishable over Bos in view of Collins or in view of any other reference of record.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and a Notice of Allowance of all claims, namely Claims 130-133, 135-184, 251, and 252.

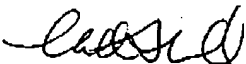
Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (616) 975-5506.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: Van Dyke, Gardner, Linn & Burkhart, LLP

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Date


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